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City of Barrie

Final

Active Transportation and Sustainability Advisory Committee

Thursday, December 7, 2023 | **5:30 PM** | **Sir Robert Barrie Room**

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT
For consideration by Infrastructure and Community Investment Committee on January 24, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Councillor, A.M. Kungl at 5:32 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 12 - Councillor A.M. Kungl
Councillor B. Hamilton
J. Bourne
N. Flinn
L. Hoffarth
K. MacLeod - SMDHU
D. McKeown - Nature Barrie
J. Northcote
S. Schwartz - Living Green
W. Steimle
E. vanWesenbeeck
D. Waters

STAFF:
Legislative Coordinator, T. Maynard
Senior Manager of Operations Roads and Fleet, C. Morton
Senior Project Manager of Transportation Planning, B. Gratrix.

The Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee met and reports as follows:

PRESENTATION CONCERNING WALKWAY WINTER MAINTENANCE

Craig Morton, Senior Manager of Operations, Roads, Stormwater and Fleet provided a presentation concerning walkway winter maintenance in the City.

Mr. Morton discussed slides concerning the following topics:

- An overview of winter maintenance and active transportation;
- Assessing and prioritizing walkways to meet the needs of the community;
- A summary of the current concerns and options to improve pedestrian access to schools;
- Examples of street to school walkways and options to consider;
- A summary and examples of park pathways to schools;
- An overview of the street to street walkways near schools;
- Examples of park pathways and street to street walkways near schools;
- An overview of the snow clearing challenges of walkways;
- The spring cleanup and summer maintenance of walkways;
- A chart entitled “Improving School Pedestrian Access - Benefitting Schools and Wards”;
- The potential costs related to improving school pedestrian access; and
- An overview of a potential pilot program, options and costs related to walkway winter maintenance.

Members of Committee asked a number of questions of Mr. Morton and received responses.

The Committee suggested surveying schools to determine the numbers of bused students versus walking students, researching complaints received for walkway locations, and looking for options for carbon-free equipment and the threshold of new equipment required. They discussed ranking these items as they relate to street to street, street to school walkways and park connected walkways around schools.

The Committee further suggested having a discussion with the school boards concerning walkway winter maintenance.

Brett Gratrix, Senior Project Manager of Transportation Planning, and Craig Morton advised that they report back at a future Committee meeting with a follow-up concerning the walkway winter maintenance.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON FAIRVIEW ROAD

Eric van Wesenbeeck discussed his concerns about pedestrian safety along Fairview Road.

Brett Gratrix, Senior Manager of Transportation Planning, discussed timelines related to roadway reconstruction along Fairview Road. He noted that concerns can be directed to the Development Services Department staff.

COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The Committee discussed the work plan items related to the Committee's mandate, and active transportation and sustainability.

The Committee provided their input on an online work plan survey Councillor Kungl prepared to assist with prioritizing work plan items and areas of focus.

ROUND TABLE UPDATES

There were no updates from members of the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

CHAIRMAN